

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

GUENTHER REINHARD KRAM ET AL.

SERIAL NUMBER:

EXAMINER:

FILED: NOVEMBER 24, 2003

GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: THREADED FASTENER FOR USE WITHIN
MULTIPLE SUBSTRATES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS
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SIR:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, and the prosecution thereof before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby desires to make of record, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, the following **PRIOR ART** of which Applicant is aware and which is also listed upon the attached PTO FORM 1449:

Information Disclosure Statement

THREADED FASTENER FOR USE WITHIN MULTIPLE SUBSTRATES

Guenther Reinhard Kram et al.

Chen	6,254,327
Walther et al.	6,152,666
Gerhard	6,086,302
Hsu	6,056,491
Dicke	5,897,280
Dicke	5,827,030
Hiroyuki	5,110,245
Dicke	5,044,853
Armstrong	4,842,467
Yaotani et al.	4,637,767
Lovisek	3,083,609

The present invention, in connection with which the present patent application is being prosecuted, is directed toward a threaded screw fastener wherein in order to facilitate the use of such fastener in connection with threaded insertion within a multiplicity of substrates fabricated from or comprising different materials, such as, for example, wood, metal, composite materials, concrete, and the like, as well as to optimize torque insertion, pull-out resistance, and other performance parameters characteristic of screw fasteners, the threads of the screw fastener are provided with saw-tooth structures or a continuous array of serrated teeth extending substantially within the planes of the screw threads and along the external peripheries of such leading threads so as to extend in circumferential arrays around the leading threads. In addition, the threads include upper and lower flank surfaces having a predetermined flank angle de-

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Guenther Reinhard Kram et al.

finned therebetween. Such saw-tooth structures or serrated teeth, in conjunction with the predetermined flank angles, enhance the cutting performance of the threads so as to facilitate insertion of the threads into the underlying substrate and, in turn, enhance the penetration or insertion rate of the fastener into the particular substrate.

While the cited **PRIOR ART** is relevant to the present invention in that the **PRIOR ART** discloses a plurality of conventional screw fasteners, it is submitted that such **PRIOR ART** patent publications cited above do not disclose the particular aforementioned features of the present invention, and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner should merely consider such **PRIOR ART** in its proper perspective, make the same officially of record, and proceed with completion of the examination of this patent application.

Respectfully Submitted,
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